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### Graduate Fiction Writing Students to Read From Work

The Sam Houston State University Department of English, in conjunction with the Wynne Home Arts Center, will serve as hosts for two evenings of readings by students in the SHSU graduate program in creative writing. On Tuesday, May 11, and Wednesday, May 12, beginning at 6 p.m. each night in the Wynne Home, students in Dr. Scott Kaukonen's graduate fiction workshop will share excerpts from their work. The event is free and open to the public.

"We generally think of writing and reading as solitary activities," Dr. Kaukonen said. "Writing is something an author does in private, conceptualizing and drafting, writing and revising, laboring for months, even years, before the work is ready to be shared with an audience. And reading is something we most often do in private, whether it's at home or on the bus or in the backyard. But this is an opportunity for those two aspects to come together in a public forum."

Each Tuesday night this semester, the students in the class have gathered around the long dining room table in the Wynne Home to critique each others' work and to discuss the art and craft of literary fiction. As a means of thanking the Wynne Home for the use of its space and as a way to share and celebrate the work done over the course of these past sixteen weeks, the class invites the public to come listen to some of the work that has been done.

Students who will be participating include Abby Hillhouse, Dave Lewis, Lauren McAuliffe, Christopher McCracken, James Ridgway, Shana Templeton, William Tunningley, Robert Uren, and Claude Wooley.

This is the second time Dr. Kaukonen's graduate workshop has met at the Wynne Home; the class was held there as well in the Spring of 2008, and as the semester drew to a close, the students likewise held a public reading of their work. "We continue to work, as a department and as a program, to nurture a lively creative writing community on campus and in Huntsville," Dr. Kaukonen said. "This is just one small part of that larger endeavor."

For more information, contact Dr. Kaukonen by phone (936-294-1404) or by e-mail (kaukonen@shsu.edu).